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REMARKS

Claim Rejections - 35 USC §102

Claims 1-6 and 8 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by US/2004/0097635 to Fan et al. (Fan).

Claims 1-6 and 8 are stated to be rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(a)(e) as being anticipated by US/6,407,922 to Eckblad et al. (Eckblad).

Claims 1-6 and 8 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by US/2004/0005736 to Searls et al. (Searls).

Claim Rejections - 35 USC §103

Claims 9 and 20 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over either Eckblad or Searls, each taken alone.

Allowable Subject Matter

Claim 10 and 11 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

In response to the rejections and objection, applicant has canceled claim 10 without prejudice, and has rewritten claim 1 to include all of the limitations of claim 10. Thus, amended claim 1 should be allowable. Applicant has also changed the dependency of claim 11 accordingly.

Dependent claims 2-6, 8-9, 11 and 20 now depend directly or indirectly from

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amended independent claim 1, and add respective additional subject matter thereto. Thus it is submitted that said dependent claims are also allowable, and applicant requests that the rejection relating thereto be removed.

Conclusion

For all the above reasons, applicant understands that all the pending claims are now in proper form and are patentably distinguishable over the prior art. Therefore applicant submits that this application is now in condition for allowance, and an action to this effect is earnestly requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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